MITTELDORFER'S.

As usual, Monday will be bargain day. But Monday, August 8th, will cap the climax in bargain getting. A terrific slaughter of final closing out of Summer Goods. Every dollar's worth of goods must go.

WE CUT THE PRICES OF SHIRT-WAISTS IN HALF. WASH DRESS FABRICS.

RIBBONS: RIBBONS! A GREAT CLEARING SALE OF

RIBBONS.

COTTONS: COTTONS:

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 6 .- (Spe cial.)-The troops that have left Camp Alger and reached Chappel Springs, en route to Manassas, have not been ordered back, as reported yesterday, and, as Unbleached 10-4 Sheeting 9 1-2c. Apron Ginghams 2 7-8c. ANOTHER NEW LOT OF

far as information can be obtained at the War Department here, the original programme of marching through North-MATTINGS. ern Virginia, in campaign order will not LOWER THAN EVER be departed from "When will the troops now at Camp

> Alger under orders for Porto Rico be required to go?" was the question I put to an official in the Adjutant-General's

BABLY STAY IN VIRGINIA.

NOT NEEDED IN PORTO RICO.

Predicts That Lee Will Be Made

magisterial and Personal.

office this morning. "To tell you the truth," he said, "between you and me on the quiet, I don't think

they will ever 'go." "What!" I said, "not give the boys a chance to see some foreign service; it

will break their hearts." "Yes," he replied, "that part of it is bad, I admit, but since Spain has accepted our terms, the eighteen or nineteen regiments ordered to report to General Wade will not be wanted in Porto Rico There are enough troops there now, with those on the way, to garrison the island, and to meet all the necessities of the oc-We will require all our transports to bring Shafter's army back to this county, and I do not think Wade's Corps will ever go to Porto Rico."

LEE DESTINED FOR CUBA. "How about Cuba, then?" I inquired. "Oh, I think it is pretty well settled that Lee's Seventh Army Corps will take care of Cuba after the peace terms have been concluded," was the reply. "Then you don't think there is anything

in the newspaper reports that Major-General M. C. Butler will be made Mili-

General M. C. Butler will be made Military Governor of Cuba?"
"Nothing whatever," replied the official. "I think that idea was suggested to the reporters by the mouthpiece of a clique here which is jealous of the prominence already given to Lee. There is no doubt in my mind that the President has always intended to wake General has always intended to make General Lee Military Governor of Cuba, and his corps has been reserved for Habana, whether there should be hostilities or n General Lee's thorough knowledge of the situation in Cuba renders him peculiarly fitted for the military governorship of the island, and the President fully ap-preciates this, and considers the appointment a fitting reward for General Lee's

SWANSON'S OPPONENT.

Hon. John R. Browne, who is the contestant for the seat of Representative Swanson from the Fifth District, is in the city, stopping at the Hotel Johnson He declined to say whether he will again be a candidate for Congress. He stated but if it came to him, of course, he would espond to the wishes of the people. It is understood that Mr. Berkley Davis,

of Henry, is working for the nomiation, and as he is young and energetic, he may give Brown a hard race Mrs. H. R. Woodward, of Middleburg,

Ya., is at the Shoreham. Ex-Postmaster-General and Mrs. Wanamaker will spend September at the Virginia Hot Springs, where a large number of well-known people have engaged ac-commodations for the autumn.

Hon. S. S. Thomas, of Clarke county, member of the Virginia Legislature, is n the city, stopping at the Metropolitan. Captain C. W. Westbury, passenger agent of the Southern rallway, at Richmond, is in the city.
"Admiral Cervera and the Spanish offi-

cers," remarked an army officer, "are having a much better time here than our ARMY ORDERS.

First Sergeant John F. James, Company , Third Virginia Volunteer Infantry, now at Camp Alger; First Sergeants Semuel A. Harris, Company A, and Jacob J. Jones, Company C, Third North Carolina Infantry, now at Fort Macon, N. C.; Private Joseph C. Ubry, Light Battery C. Pennsylvania Volunteer Artillery, now at Newport News, Va., and Hospital Steward George Thrase, Second North Carolina Volunteer Infantry, now at Raleigh, N. C., will be discharged from the service of the United States by the commanding officers of their respective

Major George W. Moses, additional pay-master, United States Volunteers, will be rough to Fredericksburg, Va., to pay the Fourth United States Volunteer Infantry, and after completion of this duty will return to his station in this city. The extension of leave of absence grant-

Captain George B. Fourth Virginia Volunteer Infantry, in Special Orders, No. 50, July 26, 1898, Seventh Army Corps, is further extended fifteen days on account of sickness. Captain Robert J. C. Irvine, Eleventh

United States Infantry, will proceed via Washington to Newport News, Va., and report in person to the commanding gen-eral of United States troops at that place for transportation to Forto Rico, and will there join his regiment.

POSTAL

Among the fourth-class postmasters appointed to-day are the following: Viola Helton, vice Carra G. Sprinkle, resigned, at Chestnut Ridge, Yadkin county; James M. McLean, vice Maria C. Denny, dead, Dennysville, Guilford county; Mollie Mullen, vice Henry P. Killian, resigned, at Dara Lingola, county, Mary M. Vetron Derr, Lincoln county; Mary M. Vernon, vice Bettie C. Kensricks, resigned, at Tennyson, Davie county; Caleb C. Bulard, vice Freeman Jackson, resigned, Vandor, Cumberland county-all North

The fourth-class postmasters commisrhe fourth-class postmasters commissioned August th are as follows: William J. McDaniel, Rutherfordton, N. C.—money-order office; Walter Burrage, Pool, N. C.; Edward W. Wells, Buil Run, Va.; Charles W. Minnis, Occupacia, Va. Changes in star schedules have been made as follows in Virginia:

Hillsville to Old Town-Leave Hillsville daily except Sunday at 5 P. M., arrive woodlawn by 7:15 P. M.; leave Woodlawn daily except Sunday at 7 A. M., arrive Old Town by 10 A. M. Leave Oldtown daily except Sunday at 11 A. M., arrive Woodlawn by 2 P. M.; leave Woodlawn daily except Sunday at 2:07 P. M., arrive Hillsville by 4:22 P. M.

Cox to Admant-Leave Cox Monday, esday, and Friday at 5 A. M., arrive Admant by 9:45 A. M.; leave Admant Monday, Wednesday and Friday after arrival of mail from Pennington Gap, but not later than 10:30 A. M.; arrive Cox in four and three quarters hours. Domino to Admant-Leave Domino

Monday and Friday in time to connect with mail from Declishur, arrive Adamant in one and one-third hours; leave Ada-mant Monday and Friday after arrival of mail from Pennington Gap, but not later than 10:30 A. M., arrive Domino in one

and one-third hours.

Pennington Gap to Declisur—Leave Pennington Gap Monday, Wednesday, and Friday after arrival of mail train, but not later than 8:15 A. M., arrive Declisur not later than sile A. A., arrive Declisur in two and three-quarter hours: leave Declisur Monday, Wednesday, and Fri-day after arrival of mail from Ewarts, Ky., but not later than 13 M., arrive Pen-

THEY WILL NOT GO. | arrive Lynch Station by 2 P. M.; leave Lynch Station daily except Sunday at 3:30 P. M., arrive Lonegum by 6:30 P. M. ENGLISH WOMAN AT CABUL. THE CAMP ALGER BOYS WILL PRO-

> (London News.) The other night I happened to be present at a semi-private address on "Afghanistan, the Ameer and His Court," which was given by Miss Lillias Hamilton to an audience of nurses and others skilled in the arts of medicine and surgery. Miss Hamilton is the woman doctor who spent some years in Cabul as the guest and medical adviser of the famous despot, Abdurrahman, and her experiences in the metropolis of those wild regions proved to be most diverting.

Dr. Hamilton's Experience With the

Ameer of Afghanistan.

It was the indifference to human life and suffering, innate in ruler and sub-jects alike, which sometimes made Miss Hamilton's stay at the court rather painful. She had some very bad moments, indeed, and not seldom ventured to argue with the terrible Ameer, and even to intervene on behalf of unfortunate wrong-doers. But he was nearly always ready to argue the point. His humor is of the grim order. On one occasion, when in a bad temper, and also in a great hurry bad temper, and also in a great hurry, he ordered an innocent man to be hanged. With some trepidation, this fact was pointed out to him. "Innocent!" said he shrugging his royal shoulders. "well, if he isn't guilty this time, he's done something else at another. Away with him!" The beggar in Cabul plies his trade without any interference by the subscriber. out any interference by the authorities. One day a patriarchial professional threw himself in the way of the Ameer on on nimself in the way of the Ameer on one of his afternoon journeys through his capital, and begged. "What are you?" said the Ameer. "A beggar," replied the supplicant. "But how do you get your living?" "By aims." "What! do you mean to say that that you do not work?" "No." "And you never have done any?" "No." "And you never have done any?"
"Never!" Then it is 'important the state of th "Never!" Then it is time that we wer-relieved of your presence." And the Ameer nodded to the High Executioner On one occasion a certain man was con demned, and was lucky enough to escapfrom the jailer, who, in much concern for his own head, went out into the by ways and seized a poor husbandman who was busy in his field. "But what have I done?" asked the unfortunate wretch. Fatalist, like all the subjects of the Ameer, he still was curious to learn the reason of his seizure. He war approaching the gallows, when luckily he met the Ameer's seal-bearer, or some other high official, and cried out to him, begging him to interfere. After some altercation the prisoner was taken before the Ameer, who at once exclaimed: "Why, who is this man? I never saw him before." Then he quickly discovered the plot, released the husbandman, and, turning to Miss Hamilton, said: "Now, what would do with this fellow?"-pointing to the jailer-who, having let the right man escape, did no think it at all improper to catch another in his place to meet the ends of justice. "Hang him!" answered Miss Hamilton forcibly. So much for the influences of environment. The Ameer must have been tickled by the situation. At all events, he didn't accept the advice. The jailer had overheard the suggestion, and he and the Doctor were never on friendly terms the occurrence.

Let it be said, in all fairness, that if the despot lets off the guilty or condemns the innocent, as his whimsical moods seize him, he is a man of infinite humors. A man was once condemned to have his ears sliced off (quite as a minor punish-ment.) He had a powerful friend, how-ever, who was much attached to him. This friend begged the Ameer, in duly submissive tones, to allow him to per-form the operation, a favor which was granted. However, the amateur begged the Ameer to show him what portion of each ear he wished to be removed. The Ameer accordingly touched them lightly, whereupon the ingenious—and courage-ous—person proceeded (in tremulous tones, one cannot help thinking.) to quote a passage in the Koran which said that anything touched by the representative of the Almighty became sacred. The despot smiled grimly, and forgave them

Miss Hamilton was practising in Calhead that he would like to see and converse with an educated English woman. (I trust that a publication of this fact will not cause a rush to Cabul.) His agent made inquiries, and Miss Hamilton was asked if she cared to make a trip to mountains. She was not very wel at the time, but thinking that the experience might be interesting, even were rather hazardous, she went. After a weary and arduous journey she arrived in safety, and soon got on terms with this famous Abdurrahman. She was quite able to hold her own with him, even be fore he was taken ill, and he soon dub

bed her his "pattern lady."
."Ah!" said the monarch one day when "Ah!" said the monarch one day when he was taking her into one of his harems "you treat me like a dog," or some such expression, by which the Ameer merely meant that his medical attendant was not in the habit of crouching and qualing in his presence. "Just follow me, and you will see how our women treat me." He has dozens of harems, and when Miss Hemilton asked him how when Miss Hamilton asked him how many wives or slaves he had, he replied, "How many? God knows,"

It is not difficult to understand that her resence in the capital of such a coun with suspicion and was viewed jealousy by many eyes. The Sultana openly said: "You are a butcher, not a doctor." And all because of her skill with the knife and the bone-saw. She thought it wise never to see a patient the harems. If any of the women wished to consult her they came out. She though ot injudicious to refrain from eating food prepared in the harems. Even the Ameer himself when about to partake of invalid food-farinaceous messes, bee teas, and so forth. I suppose-always contrived that his doctor should take a spoonful of The

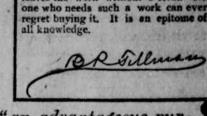
what she had cooked before he himself tried it. Of course, when in full health, and dependent upon his own chefs, the tasters were present at the feast-sug-gestive official! He could not have been an easy patient. After tending him for many hours at a stretch, the doctor reired to her room for forty minutes, ar just as she was doozing off was rudely awakened by a page with the request tha all he wanted to know was she should whether he might take a peppermint.

THE CAVE WITH MANY MOUTHS. Miss Hamilton gives, indeed, a most in-

teresting account of her experiences with the Ameer, who talked very freely with her upon all manner of subjects. He has an inquiring mind, with a power of cor-rosive criticism, which it is not wise to combat too openly. There is little love lost between him and the white races, of whatever nationality they may be. "Here I am," he said on one occasion—they al-ways talked in Persian, which Miss Hamilton speaks fluently-"here I am shut up in these mountains and surrounded by foes. I am just like a poor goat shut in a cave with several mouths to it. I go out on one side a wolf is ready to evour me. If I go out on another, it is lion. On another, a man with a knife ready to cut my throat." There is no need to translate this bit of mountain symbolism into plainer language. The tiger is well aware that his claws are cut, and he roars all the louder for it Nevertheless, he is intensely patriotic, though he is well aware that the chances though he is well aware that of Afghanistan have gone. Not even he can reconcile the inhabitants of those savage mountains, who are made up of elements as diverse as English, French, savage mountains, who are made up of elements as diverse as English, French, German, and negroes. "How can I take my ease? I must work, I must slave for my land, because no one else would do it for her." Thus he spoke, even when ill. And suffer though he might, he seldom failed to do his daily work, fearful, of course, lest his absence should be con-strued into a breakdown, which might give an opening to conspirators. Although day after arrival of mail from Ewarts, Ky., but not later than 13 M., arrive Pennington Gap in two and three-quarter hours.

Lonegum to Lynch Station—Leave Lonegum daily except Sunday at 11 A. M.,

What Constitutes a Bargain?



HON, B. R. TILLMAN, United States

Senator, South Carolina, says

The Century Dictionary and Cyclo-pedia is a standard book of reference, invaluable to any student, The com-bination of encyclopedia and dictionary leaves the work without a rival. No



A bargain is "an advantageous purchase." It isn't simply a cheap price, for a poor thing at a low price is by no means a bargain; quite the contrary, it's dear. A bargain is the purchase of a good article—one that will last a lifetime and always give satisfaction--at an advantageous price. A genuine "Old Master" at ten thousand dollars is cheap. A set of THE CENTURY DICTIONARY AND CY-CLOPEDIA, the only complete work of reference ever published, is cheap at the full retail price, for it will help you in your daily work, will be a pleasure to you in your home, and will aid your children in their studies. But at the whole-sale price at which it can be bought now

which The Dispatch makes below: OUR OFFER .- By an arrangement with the Century Company to form a limited club for the purpose of introducing the Century Dictionary and Cyclopedia in its final and completed form, we are enabled to

offer to a limited number of our readers single sets of the work at the same low price at which they are sold in lots of one thousand, thus placing each individual on a par with the largest wholesale buyer. Those who order before our club limit is reached will save over 40 per cent. of the regular price, and will be allowed to pay in small monthly payments. Remember, this club is being formed for introductory purposes, and was limited from the start. Furthermore, the demand has been

withdrawn. Call at our Century Club, 1115 east Main street, (ground floor), and xamine the work in the different bindings, or mail in the adjoining nquiry blank and full information will be sent you.

so brisk, that those who are putting the matter off, may see the offer

Please send me sample pages of The Century Dictionary and Cyclopedia, and full information regarding your "Century Club," whose members secure this great work at a special club price and on small monthly payments, (yk)

INQUIRY BLANK.

To Richmond Dispatch, Richmond, Va.:

laughed at him, of course, secretly, one supposes, as she is still alive. [PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE SPATE OF VIRGINIA.] A GLIMPSE OF CABUL.

As Miss Hamilton talks of Cabul and its court, the people and their ruler, there rises before the eye a great drab city, swarming with human beings, some handsome as gods, others grotesquely hideous as apes, seething with soldiery; a city of mud houses, with mosque and palacerising above them. The flowers are lovely, the fruits delicious, the climate delightful. The Ameer has various palaces, pleasure resorts, shooting-boxes, gardens. At the court the day is occupied in business in the evening after dinner in research. At the court the day is occupied in business, in the evening after dinner in reliaxes. The Ameer sits on a couch in a fine and spacious chamber, listening to the ceaseless babble of his courtiers, who are playing backgammon, chess, and so on. The Ameer loves a babble. He himself is puffing at his cigarette, reading some rare volume of Arabic on Parsian. On a moonolume of Arabic or Persian. Or a moon-hee is reading to him. Or he chats with his doctor; or she plays to him on a mag-nificent grand plano decorated by Burne-Jones. He pretends to care for its melli-fluous notes, but secretly prefers the harsh, barbaric strains which easterns all music.

Poor Miss Hamilton was not allowed to Poor Miss Hamilton was not allowed to have any English books or papers. The Ameer thought they would be bad for her. She might grow too wise. Perhaps it was as well, for she was thrown upon her own resources, and studied men and women, legends and history in oral form. When not in attendance at court she had the beauty of the court with no less than a fine house of her own, with no less than seventeen rooms in it. Here she quickly established herself in large though unpro-Stable practice, the extent of which may be judged by the fact that on one day she had as many as 700 patients. Needless to say, she had assistance. She had an admirable English nurse, who is in Cabul at this very time. She had soldlers to keep them in order. She had hakims to discover of the capability of dispense. These are native herbalists who have the strangest ideas of the con-struction of the human frame. She en-deavored to inculcate the theory of germs, vaccination, and so forth, into their heads. However, she did contrive to establish a vaccination station in the

South Boston Visitors.

South Boston will send an excursion crowd, numbering 125 persons, mond to-morrow. The party will be com-posed of ladies and gentlemen, and they will spend several days here sight-seeing. They will stop at the Imperial

The coal war, originally confined to an hracite, has now extended to soft coal. West Virginia Lump Splint, Fire Creek, Pocahontas Lump, and Gayton Egg have all been reduced 50 cents on the ton, and it may be the cut will be made even deep-

Sewer Nearly Completed. The 414-foot sewer at the corner of

Eleventh and Cary streets will soon be completed, and the barricade at this point has been removed. It is thought this sewer will prevent a recurrence of the recent trouble in this locality.

The Cuban Mother's Lullaby. (Boston Transcript.)

Hush, my little one, Hush, my pretty one, Close now thy hungry eyes (Mary, mother, hear his cries.) Oh, call not thy father's name again, Thy voice cannot bring back my slain.

Hush, my little one. Hush, my darling one, Cease, cease thy weak wailing, For good ships are sailing. Bringing bread to thee and me, Bringing life from over the sea.

Rest my little one, nest my natice one, Sleep my wasted one, Safe in thy mother's arms, Free from war's dread alarms. Loving hearts are bleeding for thee, "Stient lips" are pleading for thee, Awake, my little boy, Awake, heart of joy, Sent thee from over the sea!

Worthy of liberty-worthy of Cuba free. ELIZABETH BRYANT JOHNSTON. PEERY'S



FROM THE HUMAN BODY

INSURANCE STATEMENT.

NATIONAL FIRE-INSURANCE COMPANY OF BALTIMORE.

State of Md. 3 per cent. exempt loan, 1893...
Md. defence redemption loan, 3.65, 1899...
Richmond (Va.) 4 per cent. bonds, 1829...
State of Virginia century bond, 1891...
Con. Gas Co. 8 6's, 1st mort. bonds, 1910...
Va. Mid. R. R. Co. 5's, bonds, 5th series, 10,000 00 1,000 00 **5,0**00 00 1926.

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Agents' balances (net) secured ...

Net amount of unpaid losses.

Gross premiums received and receivable upon all unexpired fire risks, running one year or less from date of policy, including interest premiums on perpetual fire risks, \$42,097.74; unearned premiums (50 per cent.)

Gross premiums received and receivable upon all unexpired fire
7isks, running more than one year from date of policy, \$28,199.82; unearned premiums (pro rata).

Total amount of all liabilities, except capital stock and net surplus. \$ 41,905 16

Joint-stock capital actually paid up in cash 200,000 00

Surplus beyond capital and all other Habilities 38,055 10

Aggregate am't of all liabilities, including p'd-up cap. st'k and net sur.\$279,990 26
IV.-RECEIPTS DURING THE YEAR. Gross premiums and bills unpaid at close of last year \$ 583 17

Net cash actually received for premiums (carried out)
Received for interest and dividends on Stocks and bonds, collateral loans,
and from all other sources
Income received from all other sources—viz.: Rents, \$1.397.39

V .- DISBURSEMENTS DURING THE YEAR.

Gross amount actually paid for losses (including \$450 losses occurring in previous years)

Deduct all amounts actually received for salvage (whether on losses of the last or of previous years), \$375.30, and all amounts actually received for reinsurance in other companies, \$701.38. Total deduction Net amount paid during the year for losses \$ 13.76 00

Net amount paid during the year for losses

Cash dividends actually paid stockholders.

Paid for commission or brokerage

Paid for salaries, fees, and all other charges of employees.

Paid for State and local taxes in this and other States

All other payments and expenditures. Aggregate amount of actual disbursements during the year, in cash. \$44,010 & Largest amount in any one hazard, \$5,000.
BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF VIRGINIA DURING THE YEAR.

| Seal of the Corporation. | GEORGE E. TAYLOR, Secretary.
| Subscribed and sworn to on the 20th day of January, 1888, by William (| Seal. | Jenness, President, and George E. Taylor, Secretary, before N. F. BURKE, Notary Public.

Sam'l H. Pulliam & Co., Ag'ts.

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FROM THE HUMAN BODY

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AN ELEGANT TOILET LUXURY. Used by people of refinement

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WASH DRESS
BE QUICK.
French Dimities, worth 121-2c. 3 1-2c.
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French Organdies, worth 25c.
121-2c. LADIES' SUITS.

Ladies' Percale Suits, separate skirt and shirt-waist, nicely trimmed in braid, actual value \$1.98, Monday, 79c, A SUIT.

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LEONARD CLEANABLE OR THE ODORLESS AT COST.

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WORST TOWN OF ALL.

MURDER IS THE MOST COMMON FOIBLE OF THE INHABITANTS.

Artena, in the Volscian Mountains, Mas This Unenviable Distinction-A Nursery of Assassins-Characteristic Fate of a Postman.

(Rome Letter in Courier-Journal.) Armed with a government commission Cesare Lombroso and other renowned students of criminology have turned their

attention to the little city of Artena, in

the Volscian mountains, some forty miles

s the crow files from the capital. Lom-

broso will write a book on Artena. This town of 4,000 inhabitants lives in history as the southern hatching-oven of evil-doers and felons. As long as four and one-half centuries ago Corrado Celto said of its citizens; "No possible punish ment can deter them from heaping up crime upon crime, for their perversity of mind is more fertile in inventing new offences than the imagination of judges is in new punishments." At the period mentioned new-fangled ideas for executing and torturing criminals were al-

most as plentiful as such relating to bicycles are to-day. Either for patriotic or geographical reasons, or both, Artena has never figured in the criminology literature of the present period, which has branded other places in Italy as homes of the born delinquent; but now an overhauling of records, ancient and contemporary, by the well-known authorities on jurisprudence is promised, and we will soon know all about this romantic spot, where assas-sins grow wild, where fair-browed

noble art of cutting throats, and where revenge is the prayer on the lips of young and old.

Meanwhile, your correspondent has that while the crop of murders-and this slaughters-in the whole of Italy is on 19,000 deaths in the kingdom, nearly 2 per cent. of the men, women, and children buried in the mountain cemeteries

the Italian national murder crop is the largest in the civilized world, being four and a half times larger, for instance, than that of Great Britain, which is not reckened among the gentlest countries.

When I asked at the railway station here for a ticket to Artena, I was told that no such place was on the route, and the map corroborated that statement However, I insisted that this town had been a reality somewhere in the south chain of the Apennines and the Alban mountains for five or six centuries, or Then a council of officials was called, and one of them, who had formerly been in the service of the Papal

Government, remembered that Artena

stronghold of Montefortino, where a tribe of the ancient Volscians, who gave the oman republic so much trouble, is still 'Artena," he continued, "had no railway station, for we could probably not find a station master who would trust himself in that neighborhood. The nearest sta-tion is at Volmontone, on the Rome-Naples line via Delletri."

I found the town, which I reached on muleback, one of the most picturesquely-situated in the kingdom. Artena crowns the summit of a mountain 1,200 feet high. Half way up stands a mighty castle, built like a fortress of the Middle Ages, with towers and a most galore. It belongs towers and a most galore. It belongs to the Borghese, but no member of that princely family has set foot in it ever hels went out of fashion. In fact, they ceased taking personal interest in their

roperty since their neighbors acquired their first blunderbluss.

The town consists of a single street, petrators unknown," crawling up the mountains in zig-zag fashion. The houses are low and narrow in depth; behind the small back yards the rocks descend abruptly, as if hewn off by a mighty rush of waters. From had into the Roman Campagna, the Alban and Sabine mountains.

The 4,000 citizens of this town are, ac g to the Mayor's statements, among the best situated in Italy, as far as means and opportunities for making a steady and comfortable living are concerned, even the poorest of them owning enough rich land in the valley to yield all they need, while the better-to-do families are among the heavy wheat-sellers and speculators laws. of the province. That actual want does not exist in Artena was further demonstrated to me by the surprising fact that during my visit there not a single beggar pproached me; not even the children ask-

judges, a case having been built for every twelve prisoners. Whole families were then deported, but crime did not diminish in the least. The new city of Artena soon had as bad a name as old these circumstances, to which may be added a particularly mild climate, one should imagine that the Artenians were a happy-go-lucky lot, a little lazy perhaps but certainly unwilling to habitually walk the path of the transgressor. Such a surmise would completely coincide with the writings of the Lombrosos, Morrisons. Ferris, and others, who insist that the majority of criminals are bred under anomalous social conditions. Moreover, it would concur with the latest year-book

of the New York State Reformatory, which says that 53 per cent. of criminals in New York came from homes which were positively bad-that is, where want and abject poverty reigned, bes des crime-

while 71-2 per cent, came from homes that were positively good. So much for pathological theories. As a matter of every-day practice, crime flourishes in Artena as if the town were one immense bagnio, and its 4,000 inhabit tants so many graduates from the gal-leys, set free on a lone island to massacre

and rob each other at will.

As already stated, 2 per cent. of all deaths in Artena are the outcome of murder direct; persons dying of wounds received in assaults or by the action of incendiarism are not included in the list. Thefts, street robbery, burglary, and assaults with stiletto or revolver are matters of such ordinary occurrence in the town and in the valley belonging to the people that to investigate them all, according to the Mayor of the city, the number of police officials and judges would have to be increased out of all proportions to the total number of in-habitants. The authorities, continued this official, take notice only of the most atrocious of crimes brought to their no tice by the press of the capital or when

con-residents suffer.

This complacent official is the eleventh successor of a Mayor mysteriously mur-dered in Artena in the beginning of 1879. All these mayers were elected for a period of ten years. Three died under the hands of the assassins, two of them in broad daylight and on the open market The rest received such wound place. The rest received such wounds as to cripple them for life and make them leave their post in haste. The pres-ent incumbent of the office aspires to the distinction of outliving his term, and to that end goes about his business with cars securely plugged and eyes shut.
As a piece of general information, he
told me that "the number of crimes
against life and property brought to official recognizance in Artena is fifteen times greater relatively to the number of inhabitants than in any other place or

district of Italy." Mark the words "off-cial recognizance." Everything tends to show that almost the entire population of this mountain town is imbued with criminal propensinien, who may have strayed from his o done a little investigating on his own tion. All of them seem to be possessed of an irresistible passion for crueity-cruelty that wishes its victim to feel the does not include homicides or mere man- bitterness of death. The men and women aughters—in the whole of Italy is on of Artena are even wanting in paternal and maternal affection. Vengeance is of their daily prayer, and in deliberateness their daily prayer, and in deliberateness of criminal purpose they have no equals on the face of Europe, save perhaps in some parts dominated by "the unspeaka-

of Artena year by year die by violence. And let the reader remember here that Since the old name of Montefortino wa erased from the map after the fall of Rome and the end of the Papal Government in 1870, three entire families, som of the oldest in the city, have been com pletely wiped out-grandparents, parents brothers and sisters, cousins and nieces nephews and uncles and aunts-th Scarenzies, the Dabos, and the Rulfis Neighbor throws himself upon neighbo in the field, on the street, or in his or he castle, the home. All houses are provide with means of fortifications and man trap-doors. Victims of hatred or the prize of robbery are killed, maimed, or tortured A house goes up in flames and half a dozer children with it. Who cares? Next day a friend of the murdered family shock

down the perpetrator or perpetrators wherever he finds or tracks them. The authorities are powerless, for n citizen of Artena will bear witness against another. "Vengeance is mine," says no matter how convincing the proof fur-nished, his or her obstinacy of denial is greater. I attended a session of the assizes at Artera early in the year. The greater. whole town knew that young Ottav. Did he bear out the public prosecutor. Not a word could that official draw from his scaled lips. His sisters, his mother who had been likewise direct or indirect witnesses to the deed, were equally silent. When I returned to Rome I read in the Tribune a dispatch saying that Jegado's house was broken into night before last, and that the murderer and his family of three small children were bound to the bed, drenched with kerosene, and slowly roasted to death-"per

of course. Murder is avenged by murder in Ar-Montefortino, and whoever against a red-handed scoundrel takes his life in his hands. Hatred, jealousy and petty squabbles lead to new mur-ders, for the citizen of Artena is unstable, excessively vain, morbidly irrita-tive, and loves revenge above all things.

After 1870 the new government re-solved to break up the time-honored rob-ber nests, and Montefortino, in particular, was given a strong judicial administration; schools were erected, and the greatest severity was exercised in carrying out and enforcing respect for the As a consequence, a few hundred of the inhabitants had to be taken charge of at once, and shipped 'o the county seat, where they were confronted with their

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